

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

MAY 20, 2008

Granada Hills Shooting Incident

Thirty-three-year-old, Fernando Diaz, Jr., opened fire at a crowd of people gathered for a carnival at the St. John Baptist de la Salle Catholic Church in Granada Hills on Saturday, May 17, 2008. Fortunately, there were no fatalities but Diaz did injure three people reportedly using a semiautomatic .22-caliber rifle. Diaz's former girlfriend had a restraining order against him, and he was on active parole.

Nearly ten years ago, another similar incident occurred in Granada Hills, where a parolee from Washington, by the name of Bufford Furrow, opened fire at the North Valley Jewish Community Center. As a result of that incident, this Board supported the implementation of the DISARM program initiated by me to conduct proactive, unannounced searches of probationers to confiscate illegal weapons and drugs. The incident on May 17 presents another opportunity to review "lessons learned" for consideration in areas that may also apply to the County as it relates to probationers under our supervision.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Probation Officer to contact the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to share about the mission and success of the DISARM Program and report back to the Board in three weeks with the following:

1. Information from the CDCR about this parolee and the events leading to this incident, including how parolee Diaz acquired his weapon and what, if any, actions should/could have been triggered as a result of the restraining order against him; and,

- M O R E -

MOTION

MOLINA _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

BURKE _____

2. Recommendations for the County Probation Department and possibly the Courts as it relates to the supervision of County probationers.

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MDA:aplc
3-20-08 Granada Hills Shooting Incident